Statement

Sl. No.	Year	No. of farmers (covered)	Sum Insured (Rs. in lakh)	Claims paid (Rs. in lakh)
1	1985-86	47,839	1101.00	39.19
2	1986-87	49,300	1552 27	132.71
3	1987-88 (As on 15-1-88)	26,637	959 15	10.43

Writing of? 80 crores invested in Sindri Rationalisation Project

1850. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA; Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased t_0 state::

(a) whether the Department of Fertilizers has submitted a proposal to writeloff Rs. 80 crores invested in Sindri Rationalisation Project as the plant is beyond redemption because of serious technical snags;

(b) if so, the details of the Proposal and the decision taken thereon; and

(c) whether Government propose to institute any enquiry into the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN 'THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRI-. CULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU):. (a) Yes, Si'r; there is such a proposal.

(b) The' proposal is to write off: —

(i) . $asset_s$ of Rs. 58.50 crores (Rs. 30.60 crore.3 as equity and Rs. 27.90 crores as loan); and

(it) accumulated losses of Rs. 86.10 $crore_s$ suffered by the plant during 1979-80 to 1986-87.

No decision has been taken by the Government.

(c) No, Sir. There is no such pro posal at present.

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Scarcity of Milk in Drought hit States

1851. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA; Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased t_0 state:

(a) whether it is >a fact that most of the States, especially the drought hit States, are facing scarcity of milk and milk products;

(b) if so, what is the estimated shortages of milk in various States and how Government propose to maintain the supply of milk;

(c) what actions are proposed to be taken to save the cattle wealth for sustaining the milk supply; and

(d) whether Government are plan. ning to avail milk powder and cattle wealth as part of the foreign aid and if so, what ar_e the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHY AM LAL YADAV): (a) There had been fall i_n the availability of milk and milk products during the last drought period. However, there are indications that the situation i_s improving now.

(b) The steps which had been taken by the Government to ease the situation included (a) liberalisation of procurement prices, (b) **augment** availability of liquid milk, (c) peg